

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY
2011 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

Question 4

Contrast Renaissance Florence with Reformation Geneva with respect to religion, government, and everyday life.

9–8 points

- Thesis contrasts the two cities.
- Organization is clear and effective (e.g., juxtaposes differences between the two cities side by side).
- Essay addresses all three components of the question: religion, government, daily life.
- All major assertions are supported by multiple pieces of relevant evidence.
- Both cities are contrasted with respect to all three topics: religion, government, daily life.
- Essay analyzes the differences identified and places them in historical context.
- Essay may contain some minor errors that do not detract from the argument.

7–6 points

- Thesis contrasts the two cities.
- Organization is clear and effective (e.g., juxtaposes differences between the two cities side by side).
- Essay addresses both cities with respect to at least two components: religion, government or daily life.
- Essay makes an attempt to analyze the differences and place them in historical context.
- Essay may contain minor errors.

5–4 points

- Attempted thesis may simply restate the prompt.
- Organization is simplistic or ineffective (e.g., one paragraph on Florence and one paragraph on Geneva).
- An attempt is made to show some contrasts between cities, but the coverage of the three components is uneven.
- Essay does not attempt to analyze or contextualize the differences; tends to read as factual narrative.
- Essay may contain minor errors.

3–2 points

- Thesis is missing or just restates the prompt.
- Organization is unclear and ineffective.
- Essay shows serious imbalance; may address only one city.
- Essay contains some supporting evidence.
- Essay may contain several errors that detract from the argument.

1–0 points

- Thesis is missing.
- Essay is poorly organized.
- Essay is off task or not responsive to the prompt.
- There is little or no supporting evidence.
- Essay contains major errors.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, Europe was full of different cultures - different languages, different rulers, and, after the Reformation, different religions. Few were more different, however, than ^{the} bright, artistic Florence of the Renaissance, and the more somber and ~~and these~~ ^{austere} Geneva of the Reformation, ~~and these~~ ^{and these} ~~those~~ differed wildly when it came to religion, government, and everyday life, ~~and~~.

The Florence of the Renaissance was governed by the powerful Medici family, who had gained their wealth through banking. Geneva, on the other hand, was governed by John Calvin and his "elect" - ~~these~~ lucky few who were predestined to go to heaven, and were therefore blessed by God with prosperity in their temporal lives. These were both authoritarian regimes, with little dissent tolerated (those who went against Calvinist teachings and danced or gambled, for example, were harshly punished), but the existence of a quasi-theocracy in Geneva sharply differed from the Medici's rule. The Medicis were forced to be more

present in surrounding Italian and European affairs, while Geneva's government was shut-off and removed from much outside conflict. Much of the reason for the differences in their governments stems from differences in religion and everyday life.

In both Florence and Geneva, religion and everyday life were intertwined. In Florence, the Catholic Medici tried to give honor to God through the patronage of the arts. The famous works of Da Vinci, Michelangelo, and innumerable others were often meant to decorate the ornate churches of Florence - the Duomo in the Florentine center, for example, is famous for its wood panelling on its doors, which show biblical scenes and figures. Everyday life was filled with trips to church, yes, but ^{Florentines} ~~also~~ also embraced individualism and humanism in order to learn for themselves about God's world. Calvin and Geneva, on the other hand, were strict Calvinists. Their churches were bare and whitewashed, and their everyday life was based around living

Simply and piously; praying^{and} reading the vernacular Bible were essential to Calvinists, who, unlike Catholics, believed in "salvation by faith alone." Geneva citizens were expected to follow a comprehensive and extremely conservative set of guidelines and rules, while their Florentine counterparts lived much freer and independent lives.

There is little debate that Florence and Geneva were wildly different in respect to government, everyday life, and certainly religion, which affected the other two.

Calvinism and Catholicism would continue to battle for dominance in Europe, and in the decades and centuries to come, the societies of Florence and Geneva would be held as ^{prime} examples of these two different beliefs.

Renaissance Florence and Geneva were similar yet different. They differed in religion, government, and everyday life.

Florence is known for being Catholic, especially since it is located near the Vatican. ~~This shows that Florence~~ Geneva is a Protestant city. This shows one of the major differences between these two Renaissance cities.

Geneva has an ~~absolute~~ monarch that rules over the land. Florence has a wealthy and powerful family, like the Medici, ruling over it. The major difference in government styles is the fact that the wealthy family can be overthrown easier than a monarch can.

Everyday life in these two cities is very different. The art style is very different. ~~Geneva~~ Geneva is located in the northern part of Europe. The northern art is focused on religion and education. Often northern art would be demolished if it was not approved of. Northern art is also very flat and two dimensional. Florence is in the Southern part of Europe. The Southern art is more ~~the~~ classic and has more depth and dimensions. Geneva has more of an agricultural economy, while Florence is more trade and seafaring. Women are also treated better in Florence than in

4B-2

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

Genre. This means that they have more rights and freedoms.

Religion, government, and everyday life are just a few ways that Renaissance France and Renaissance Genoa differ.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

4C-1

The renaissance in Florence and the reformation in Geneva are both remarkable events in history. Both events had major influences in their respective times, but were very much different. In regard to religion, government, and everyday life these two events are far from similar to each other.

The reformation in Geneva started with Martin Luther, who believed that faith alone was enough for God. Luther held religion in the utmost importance. It was his life. The renaissance in Florence on the other hand wasn't started by any one person, it was an era that just came to be. During this time, people started pulling away from the church and followed ideas of humanism and individualism. Exactly the opposite of Luther, in Florence people started to idolize the human body and worship it rather than God.

The government during the renaissance supported the people's belief in humanism, and did little to interfere. The people of the time were happy and so was the government. The reformation is a different story. Luther and his parade about his 95 theses created problems for people in the government. With the people so supportive of Luther the government could not just get rid of him, so they took him to court where Henry VIII ^{stated} ~~was~~ that Luther's ideas were heresy. This was called the Edict of Worms. The reformation had negative effects on the government while the renaissance kept everyone happy.

The everyday life was changed dramatically because of the renaissance. A new merchant class arose, allowing wealthy families to ~~buy~~ commission paintings. The economy was good and stable, and there was an uplifting feeling around Florence. In Geneva, Luther started his campaign on trying to rid the church of its corrupt leaders and abolish the selling of indulgences along with simony, absenteeism and pluralism. Through his preaching, Luther got the people on his side which in turn created hostility towards the church. The everyday life in Geneva ~~to~~ spiraled downward with the other places Luther visited.

The reformation and renaissance were both major events that had an everlasting influence. They differed in the fields of religion, government, and everyday life, but still remain similar in the changing of their societies.

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY
2011 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)

Question 4

Sample: 4A
Score: 9

The essay has an insightful and sophisticated thesis that addresses both Florence and Geneva. The organization is clear, juxtaposing Florence and Geneva side by side and allowing the reader to clearly see the differences. The essay analyzes all three components of the question — religion, government and daily life — and presents multiple pieces of relevant evidence in support of the argument regarding each component. The essay goes beyond a mere recognition of the differences between the two cities to demonstrate an awareness of the historical events and processes that accounted for these differences. The solid analysis, multiple supporting examples and overall sophistication earned this essay the maximum score of 9.

Sample: 4B
Score: 5

The attempted thesis in the introductory and concluding paragraphs is a restatement of the question. The essay does adequately address all three components of the question in the body paragraphs, albeit in a general and unsophisticated manner. Some of the points of contrast developed in the discussion are based on factual errors (for example, the claim that Geneva had a monarch) or overgeneralizations (for example, the claim that “Northern art” is “very flat and two dimensional”), but other points of contrast are valid. The essay did not merit a score of 6 because of the overall shortage of supporting evidence, the presence of errors and misinterpretations that detract from the argument, and the lack of well-developed analysis of the reasons behind the major differences. On the other hand, the essay earned higher than a score of 4 because it is clearly organized, attempts to contrast the two cities side by side using all three components of the question, and shows awareness of some of the main differences.

Sample: 4C
Score: 1

The thesis attempt is merely a wordy restatement of the question. The references to Martin Luther and Henry VIII are off task. The discussion of Renaissance Florence is basic, idealized and often factually incorrect (for example, in the suggestion that the “worship” of the human body in Florence replaced Christianity). There is no supporting evidence for Geneva, and only the reference to the rise of the Florentine merchant class and merchants’ role as patrons of the arts is valid. The lack of a thesis and the general, simplistic and often confused nature of the discussion prevented the essay from earning a score of 2, but the two pieces of correct information for Florence merited a score of 1.